

U.S.-Russia Archival Conference
April 13 – 15, 2004
Schedule of Topics

Tuesday, April 13

1000 – 1030 U.S.-Russia Archival Conference Opening Remarks

Speaker: The Honorable Jerry Jennings, Deputy Assistant Secretary of
Defense, Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Affairs
Speaker: Gov. John W. Carlin, Archivist of the United States (*Tentative*)

**1030 – 1230 Morning Session Topic - Research in the U.S. and Russian Archives:
The Human Dimension**

This session will stress the importance of archival research to the work of the USRJC. The U.S. Side will provide concrete examples of the result of the work being done at the Central Military Archives of the Russian Federation (TsAMO). Several cases will be used to show to conference participants the end result of the melding of U.S. and Russian resources in determining the fates of particular U.S. missing-in-action personnel. A Power Point presentation will be included.

Presenter: Mr. Danz Blasser, Senior Analyst, Korean War Working Group,
Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, Joint
Commission Support Directorate
Commentator: Colonel Sergey Ilenkov, Chief of the Russian Military Archival
Service

**1400 – 1600 Afternoon Session Topic - Korean and Vietnam War Materials Held in
Russian Archives**

The Russian Side will describe the records in Russian archives that pertain to the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Presenter: Colonel Sergey Chuvashin, Chief, Central Archives of the Russian
Ministry of Defense
Commentator: Dr. James G. Connell, Special Projects, Defense Prisoner of
War/Missing Personnel Office, Joint Commission Support
Directorate

Wednesday, April 14

**1000 – 1200 Morning Session Topics - Review of U.S. Declassification Procedure
Stressing Korean and Vietnam War Records**

This session will deal with the U.S. declassification process and will address common problems with the process. Parallels will be drawn between the receipt of recently found Korean War-era U.S. Air Force documents and the recently discovered Korean War-era

documents uncovered in the Leningrad Military District archives. A second parallel can be drawn between the lengthy declassification process in U.S. and Russian archives. This will be a chance for archivists on both sides to address similar problems that have occurred in archives that were born of quite different systems.

Presenters: Ms. Laura Kimberly, Deputy Director, Interagency Security Oversight Office, NARA

Mr. Donald McIlwain, Branch Chief, Initial Processing and Declassification Division, NARA

Commentator: Colonel Sergey Ilenkov, Chief of the Russian Military Archival Service

1330 – 1430 Afternoon Session Topic 1 - Russian Declassification Law

Presenter: Colonel Sergey Ilenkov, Chief of the Russian Military Archival Service

Commentator: Ms. Jeanne Schauble, Director, Initial Processing and Declassification Division, NARA

1430 – 1530 Afternoon Session Topic II - Veterans Information Requests

This session will deal with the common task of both NARA and TsAMO – providing assistance to veterans. Due to the fire that destroyed 85% of the personnel records from the First and Second World wars, NARA has increasingly been tasked to “fill the holes” created by these missing records. This information has a direct impact on veterans’ status and benefits. This task also occupies a great deal of time and resources at TsAMO. Both sides will have the opportunity to compare and contrast how this task is handled and perhaps serve as a point of professional connection and understanding between the two systems. This topic lends itself very well to the commentator function.

Co-Presenters: Dr. Timothy Nenninger, Chief of Modern Military Records, NARA

Colonel Sergey Chuvashin, Chief, Central Archives of the Russian Ministry of Defense

Thursday, April 15

1000 – 1200 Morning Session Topic - Finding Guides

This session will be a joint presentation on finding guides used in respective archives. It is hoped that the Russian Side will be able to have a presenter from each of the archives present participate in the session. This will hopefully provide some insight into the archives to which the U.S. Side does not have regular access and perhaps additional information about TsAMO.

Presenters: Dr. Sharon Thibodaux, Director, Access Programs, NARA
Ms. Brenda Kepley, Archivist, Old Military Records and Civil Records, NARA

Commentator: Ms. Irina Pushkareva, Archivist, Central Archives of the Russian Ministry of Defense

1330 – 1530 Afternoon Session Topic - Impact of Modern Technology on Archival Operations

NARA will provide an extensive tour of its archive with emphasis on the technology available to U.S. archivists and researchers. The presentation will focus on recent developments in technology that are used to run a modern archive.

Presenters: Mr. Robert Richardson, Director, Special Media Archival Services Division, NARA
Ms. Rebecca Collier, Assistant Chief, Modern Military Records, NARA

Commentator: Vladimir Viktorovich Kozin, Chief of the Central Archives, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation

1530 – 1600 U.S.-Russia Archival Conference Closing Statements

U.S. Speaker: TBD

Russian Speaker: TBD